THE UNDERGRADUATE.

VOL. XXIV. MIDDLEBURY, VT., OCTOBER, 1898. No. 1.

THE AFTER-DINNER TALK OF A HALF CENTURY GRADUATE.

[It is with special pleasure that THE UNDERGRADUATE reproduces the most striking feature of last Commencement's alumni dinner, the response of Doctor J. E. Rankin, President of Howard University, Washington, D. C., back to the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation. President Brainerd introduced Doctor Rankin as one whose hymns have carried his name into all the world. The closing verses—most beautiful of Middlebury lyrics—are to be sung to the air of The Soldier's Farewell.—THE EDITOR.]

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW ALUMNI:

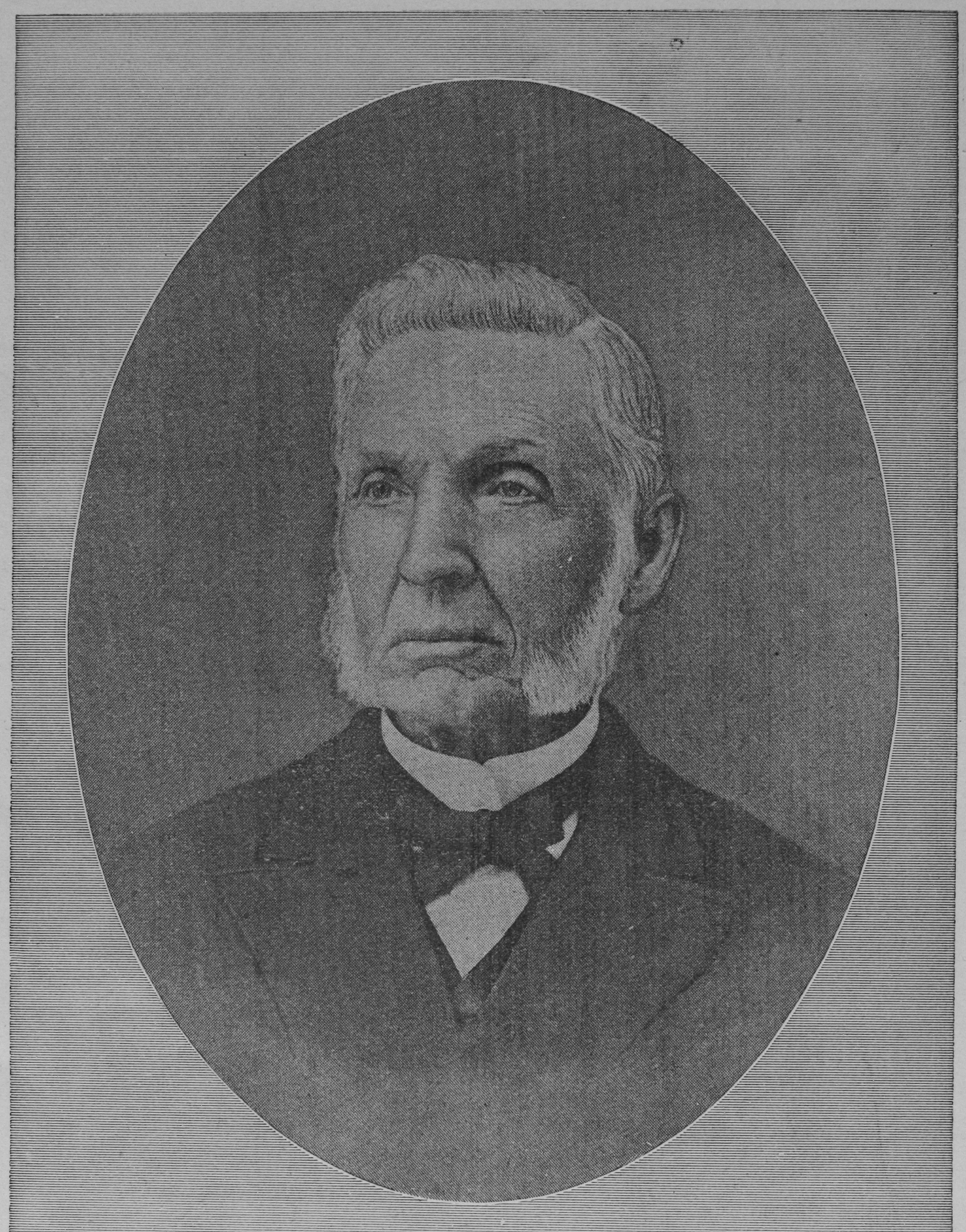
Emerson has said,

"The tongue is prone to lose the way;
Not so the pen, for in the letter
We have not better things to say,
But surely say them better."

I did not come here to speak. Let that be done by Brutus and Mark Antony. This is by letter. There are some things that should be encountered in silence. For example, the pyramids and the sphinx and half-century anniversaries. I have never been called venerable but once, and that was in a prayer, where it was not possible to answer back. It was decreed, by my birth, and by parental counsels, that I should graduate at Dartmouth, where Daniel Webster and Rufus Choate had led the way. But college presidents are men who break decrees. Indeed, they are men in general who do what they ought not to do, and there is no health in them. And although my father had written to President Nathan Lord and, as the English say, "I was booked" for Dartmouth, when President Benjamin Labaree, wise in counsel and great achievement, appeared at the Convention of Congregational Ministers in Chester, and said to my revered father that Vermont ministers should patronize Vermont colleges, an apothegm indisputable, the decree toward Dartmouth was broken, and a new decree went forth; and that summer (it was in 1844) the Chester minister and his son set out in a little buggy for the memorable town of Middlebury, sixty-five miles away. At Rutland the procession was enlarged by Dr. William Mitchell with another candidate for college studies, Martin H. Freeman, afterwards president of the University of Liberia. I remember—though I had forgotten it until President Freeman told it to Dr. Alex. H. Clapp—that the white boy and the black boy played together in President Labaree's back yard, and that when dinner arrived, and the precise and lady-like wife of the president was at a loss how to dispose of the black boy at the table—as society has always been since, unless he will be a waiter—the white boy suggested that the others should sit down first, and afterwards the two boys should eat by themselves—both becoming waiters—which was a solution of the embarrassing situation, as well as a shadow of coming events, which sometimes cast their shadows before, especially when the events themselves are colored.

I had as a classmate and room-mate a man who was afterwards to be my brother-in-law, Hon. Sumner Albee, an accurate, faithful, conscientious student, who carried accuracy, fidelity and conscientiousness into all his social and civic relations in Cambridge, Mass., and left a public and private record almost immaculate. With wavy, auburn hair, a complexion that blushed like a girl's—which was an emblem of his pure nature—and a cleanliness and tidiness which were almost painful to my boyish and erratic nature; one who had put away all childish things; no one ever knew him but to confide in his virtue and admire it. Then there was Bowe, who died in our junior year, and whose great grief and tears at being prematurely cut off from his laudable ambitions I have never forgotten. I watched with him in his last illness, at Judge Wooster's on Willow street, if it was so called, where was my first boarding place. That was a boarding place, with the judge, full of wise saws and modern instances, and Mrs. Wooster's patient and motherly ways, and with buckwheat cakes that seem still to melt in memory's mouth. Albee was there and Guy Strong and his cousin, and a tableful of studious fellows, all many years my senior.

The class of 1848, as we graduated, numbered only ten, though I think we entered more than double



HON. MERRITT CLARK.

[The late Hon. Merritt Clark, the last survivor of the class of 1823 and the earliest of the living graduates of Middlebury College, died at Poultney, Vt., on May 5 last, at the advanced age of 95 years and 3 months. His obituary was printed in our Commencement number, and we are glad to be able to present in this issue a good likeness of so distinguished a graduate.—THE EDITOR.]

class recitation, as he had a gift for doing, drawling the fair impeachment through his nose, as he was wont, "I do not find anything like that in this book, and I should be very sorry if I did;" and Tutor Bascom, who knew how to teach geometry, as it is not always taught now, and upon whom, now about 80, in the way of settling old scores of the class room, I had the honor lately of conferring the degree of LL.D., and leading the Howard University boys in three cheers for "Tute Bascom." I must not fail to speak of the dignity and official grace of President Labaree, and of Prof. Meacham, brusque and vigorous, short and stubbed, who first taught Shakespeare and Burke in the college curriculum, and who used to write me kind letters after I graduated; and of Alex. H. Clapp, the Huntington of the Congregationalist, who one year taught us rhetoric, and with whom my friendship has been lifelong.

Of Middlebury herself, with her mountain setting of green, her gliding Otter tumbing over the falls beneath the bridge, her Philip Battell, almost as old as the hills and carrying the chivalry of youth into the eighties, and whose spirit must be hovering somewhere near by to-day; of Middlebury and the girls of that period, still, I am glad to see, helping to mould the character of inconsiderate youth, singing in the Congregational choir, going with us to the Junior exhibition, and eventually settling down to be the wives of such men as Alma Mater had set on their way to the society of the kings and judges of the earth, of missionaries and martyrs to the truth; and steeling our hearts against all later maidens, charmed they never so wisely—what can I say? I have only to mention the names of Butler and Phelps and Post and Bascom and Stewart, of whose companions all, I might say from the Bible, "He that findeth a wife, findeth a good thing." And from Wordsworth:

"A creature not too bright or good
For human nature's daily food,
For transient sorrow's simple wiles,
Praise, blame, love, kisses, tears and smiles;
A perfect woman nobly planned
To warn, to comfort and command;
And yet a spirit still, and bright
With something of an angel light."

Of the new life which has come to the college with the last administration—long may it be the last—where Ezra Brainerd, whom in his sedate boyhood I received into the Church of Christ at St. Albans, and had the hardihood and prophetic instinct to point past the Vermont University to the halls of Middlebury, and who has succeeded the Bates's and Labarees and Hulberts and Kitchells and Hamlins of the honored past—what can I say? It was said of Dr. Hamlin that he came here to attend a college funeral, and the funeral was indefinitely postponed. It has been feast-day ever since. I am reminded of what Hamlet says about his mother's wedding, though the allusion is unsavory.

When fifty years ago I took my diploma—my little all—and mounted the stage-coach with Ike Williamson, the old-time driver, whom I have just visited in the stable and who at 82 I see hovering around these tables as the lost Peri around the gates of Paradise, and went rumbling and rolling down through Brandon and Pittsford and Rutland and finally stopped amid the quiet of Chester village, fairly reduced to my proper dimensions, I little thought of the half-century of love and care that God was to give me; I little thought that it would be my lot to appear here as a solitary septuagenarian, solitary in my seventies, though four more still survive, and say these imperfect words. For all the patience and unmerited kindness and partiality of my Alma Mater and her guardians; for all the memories and hospitalities of this beautiful town and its environs; for the heights of Chipman hill and the mountain scene westward; for the memories of the white-spired church, Painter Hall and the college campus; for Ripton and Lake Dunmore my heart is full of gratitude. O boys and girls, who with me bear the Mother's name, take a brother's benediction and a brother's prayer.

Hail Mother, glory-seated,
Be by thy children greeted
Beside these gliding waters;
Thy sons, thy graceful daughters.
Hail, Mother, hail, our love we tell,
Hail and farewell! hail and farewell!

These hills of green enshrine thee,
Our filial arms entwine thee,
Dawn's beauty on thee linger,
Touch thee with rosy finger.
With love for thee, our bosoms swell,
Hail and farewell! hail and farewell!

From year to year repeated,
Be by thy children greeted,

that number. I will not say it was reduced by skimming, as milk is of its cream, nor boiled down to sugar as is maple sap. E. Warren Collier from New York was with us, and brought the college some ideas of a gymnasium, and used to whirl around on his arms, like a cockchafer on a schoolboy's pin. He was a fine scholar, but soon went to Rutgers College, N. J., and died early. He was one of the pupils of that eminent Greek teacher and professor, J. J. Owen, a great teacher and son of Alma Mater, whose own son is now doing such admirable work in Ticonderoga, as I was told on my visit to Joseph Cook, to whom degrees and titles neither take from nor add to, but whom Howard University declared worthy of an LL.D. I must not speak too long of those who left us; but I must mention Cephas K. Martindale, a companionable fellow of Wallingford, and William M. Briggs of Marblehead, who was a nephew of Professor Solomon Stoddard and boarded with him, and who, when the professor resigned, followed him to Amherst College, that he might be near Northampton, where the great Edwards and Stoddard families mingled their blood immortal, and where the professor died. Briggs, who afterwards died in Mexico, as really a poet as his gifted sister, Caroline A. Mason.

With Blanchard and Case, when my funds became low, I cast in my lot as a fellow-boarder. Uncle Harxey, who was as wise as Plato and as black as Hannibal (I dare not in this presence say the ace of spades) and who took our washing for his thrifty housewife, brought us milk, and Blanchard deftly made a daily johnnycake of generous dimensions, and we breakfasted on baked potatoes and ham, dined on johnnycake and milk, and supped on milk and johnnycake, eating beachnuts for dessert as the squirrels do. This sumptuous fare cost me 45 cents a week, 5 cents a week being allowed to my accomplished classmate for manipulating the materials. Plain living and high thinking! We roomed in the third story of Painter Hall. Sir Thomas Browne, in his "Religio Medici," says that "the whole world was made for man and the twelfth part of man for woman." At that time we had a very slight foothold on what of the world God had made for us, and with the exception of Case no woman had any prospect of getting the twelfth part of us, which God made for her. Though, as we all three afterwards became ministers, it can hardly be thought that the training in economy was lost upon any of us, or that we did not sigh for a woman to wash the dishes. In the interest of economics I recall that in my Freshman year I taught school in Chester at $10 a month; in my Sophomore year in Grafton at $13 a month; in in my Junior year in Moriah, N. Y., at $16 a month, and in my Senior year in Middlebury at $28 a month: though in this last case I boarded myself, not indeed in the primitive way just mentioned. I took what is called "table board" and roomed in the old academy, as in the capacity of librarian of the Philomathesian Society I had the privilege of doing. Farnsworth, the great missionary to Turkey, in the winter of 1847–48 taught the school on the west side of the river; mine was on the east, under the brow of Chipman's hill, where the president resides; doubtless the *genius loci* still abides there. Dana from Brandon was with us, and Folsom of Moriah, whom God made for some great niche in the west, but alas! he failed of it; and Maranville, who was studying states' rights under John C. Calhoun, and had a later opportunity to see what states' rights meant, as he taught in the south; and Remele, who meant to be a doctor but who transferred his professional heritage to his son, probably the class baby, although I doubt if he had any class cup, and sent him as an honor to the college and the family name into the Christian ministry; and Davis J. Rich, the college wit, whose serious words, when he uttered them, were carefully scrutinized with microscope, with chemical analysis carefully applied to see where was the joke, but who took life seriously at last and served his country as captain in the Civil War, and died a North Carolina legislator; and Gustavus B. Wright, our youngest and perhaps our most gifted in scholarship.

For teachers we had Solomon Stoddard, a miniature sage in a great cloak, precise and accurate, and as aforesaid, with the Jonathan Edwards blood in his veins; W. C. Twining, whose throat-cough the boys knew so well how to imitate, though our class had Tutor (afterwards Professor) Hadley in algebra, and did not encounter this accomplished teacher till we reached the "Philosophical Chamber," as he termed it, of Junior year. Professor Adams, called "Bug" Adams, as some lighthouses are called bug-lights, because their flash is like that of the lightning-bug, whose Geology of Vermont we studied, and who once told Rich, who had been extemporizing in the

The ship is staunch, our hearts beat high;
We'll steer straight out with steadfast eyes;
We'll sail across to lands of gold,
Beneath whatever skies.

What care we though the clouds hang low?
What care we though the waves dash high?
We'll find more fair, in sunset glow,
The harbor bye and bye.

By sun or star, on land or sea,
When skies are blue or skies are drear,
Our thought shall turn to this calm bay,
Where friends and life were dear.

For memory recks not winds and waves,
But, stretching out across the sea,
Makes then seem now and far seem near,
In magic mystery.

The breezes sweep from summer hills
Across the bay and out to sea;
The fluttering pennants flash and flow,
In mute expectancy.

The anchor's up, the cable's loosed,
The restless sails are swelling free;
The good ship leaps adown the bay,
And we are off to sea.

A SONG FOR SEAFARERS.

How may he know the haven's peace
Who never fared a-sea?
Little recks he who bides on shore
What tides and winds may be.—
How the blue days drop down the sky,
And nights creep stealthily.

Little recks he the joy that comes
When 'gainst the sunset sky,
Dark headlands and the grey old town
In the waiting welcome lie,
While harbor-lights a greeting flash
And homing sea-birds cry.

These be for him who far hath fared
For him alone they be.
(Oh! welcome, waiting lights! and, oh!
Her dear eyes' watch for me!
Well may I know the haven's peace
For I have fared the sea.

—*Williams Lit.*

THE UNDERGRADUATE.

SAMUEL B. BOTSFORD, 1900, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.
GUY B. HORTON, 1900, *Assistant Editor-in-Chief.*

Associate Editors.

DONALD P. HURLBURT, '99, } *Literary.*
WM. T. BARNARD, 1900, }
H. F. LAKE, '99, *Locals.*
FLORENCE M. HEMENWAY, 1900, *College Association.*
BERT L. STAFFORD, 1901, *Athletics.*
JOHN E. STETSON, 1900, *Business Manager*

Assistants.

J. EARL PARKER, 1901, EDWARD C. HOOKER, 1900.

One College Year, - - - - - - $1.00
Single Copies, - - - - - - - .15

Address all communications to EDITOR UNDERGRADUATE, Middlebury, Vermont. No anonymous communications will be noticed.

The Editor-in-Chief takes the Alumni Department.

Address all business communications regarding subscriptions or advertisements to the Business Manager, J. E. STETSON.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

TO THE FRESHMAN, the formation of proper ideals is of the utmost importance. However earnest, however gay, the student may have been in his preparatory school, the different methods, the changed companions, the unfamiliar atmosphere of the college, cannot but cause in him a change for better or for worse. Many a man comes to college with resolutions mentally made and signed that here for four years he will make a record unparalleled and enviable. But to the average Freshman the term "record unparalleled and enviable" is ambiguous in the extreme. He may have a vague idea of valedictories and long-sought diplomas, his vision may be filled with the tousled hair and torn clothes of the athlete; or again, he may hear a dim mingling of class yells, or taste in fancy the spoils of neighbors' grapes. He may have one or all of such ideals. He may hope to cover all the ground and be at night the terror of the town, and in class the bearer of the palm. But there are few such prodigies. The college man must be a

scholar and a gentleman, or a ruffian and a fool. True, he may be polished and bright, or he may be dull and uncouth, but in the four years of contact with active, pushing, educated young men, he must sooner or later pick his companions and choose his calling. What, then, shall be the Freshman's ideal? We would answer—culture. In no other place can culture be so easily secured; at no other time can it be more thoroughly assimilated. By culture we mean scholarship, friendship and its fruits, charity for others' faults, manliness and womanliness. In the pursuit of culture the collegian will broaden and better himself, he will be an athlete if he can, a musician, a *litterateur*, a public speaker, a "society man" even, if these be his gifts. He will be public spirited, a college man interested in college enterprises and broad enough to help to their success. And here let us consider some of these enterprises, taking first the game of the fall,

FOOT-BALL. The failure of Middlebury's foot-ball team to materialize is a source of regret to every true lover of sport in Middlebury, but its causes are easily discernible. The loss of the class of '98 is the principal element, of course, but aside from that fact foot-ball is undoubtedly a much less popular game to-day than it was five years ago. We do not mean to say that the game is unpopular—far from it, —but the *furor*, the enthusiasm, is lacking. It is far better that we should lose a year of foot-ball than that our credit with the public should be belittled by an ill-supported, unsuccessful team. Yet there is a college enterprise which can succeed this year, and to the interests of which the lack of a foot-ball team may possibly give aid. We refer to

THE GLEE CLUB. In no department of college life —curriculum, of course, excepted—has Middlebury been better equipped for years than she now is in the musical. It has been our fortune to hear Middlebury's Glee Club for several years back, and we make free to say that with very small effort a musical organization, far worthier and more successful than they, can be started and sustained. College sentiment, so far as we can learn, heartily favors a glee club, no foot-ball practice interferes, nothing apparently stands in the way, and we say earnestly let it be started and let it be sustained. And now we come to another college enterprise,

THE UNDERGRADUATE. In our opening words we plead for culture and its attributes. From no fount can culture draw a purer inspiration than from literature; in no field can it broaden its scope and influence more surely and pleasantly than in the field of letters. We would not for a moment assume to be literary, nor are our pages crowded with undying classics, but the history of Middlebury, its alumni since '76, point conclusively to the fact that the persistent endeavor to write so that it will stand the test of print is well worth the exertions of any true seeker after culture. We need but speak of Hulbert and Harvey and Dorr and Murkland—and there are many others—whose writings have adorned our pages in years back, and who doubtless drew many a lesson from the sight of their works in point. For type destroys illusions; it is cold type indeed, and the student who will place his most cherished article in the printer's hands will soon be able to see imperfections he never dreamed of. We would ask the Freshman to place culture as his ideal, and in his striving toward that ideal, let him think often of the aid we can render and the good he can receive.

ALUMNI NEWS.

[Any alumni or others who have old programs, announcements or papers of college interest would confer a favor on the college by sending them to Prof. M. R. Sanford. In view of the coming centennial, it is desired to collect a series of articles which would be of interest to graduates and friends of the college.]

[Contributions to this column are solicited from the alumni of the college. We shall always be glad to hear from you. Literary articles, verse, but above all reminiscences and news of alumni are desired. We intend to make this department the prominent feature of the UNDERGRADUATE.]

[The alumni will render a great service to the management by notifying the Business Manager of a change of address, should there be any. We have several names whose changed address we have discovered by mere accident, and there may be others to whom we are sending papers wrongly directed. Such notification will als be of assistance to the editor in obtaining alumni news.]

CLASS OF '98.

Bliss is taking a course at Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

Botsford is principal of the High School at Wallingford, Vt.

Dunton is studying law in the office of Mr. Edward Dana, Rutland, Vt.

Halpin will travel for a Boston firm, selling Catholic school supplies.

Hinman has a position in the public schools of Ashtabula, O.

Lobban is to spend the year studying at the Harvard Graduate School in the English department.

Peck is with Scott, Foreman & Co., the great Chicago publishers.

Rice is a student in the Buffalo Law School.

Sears is in the real estate business on Fourteenth street, New York.

Sessions is to teach in Florence, Vt.

Skeels is private secretary to Percival W. Clement, president of the Rutland Railroad.

Wells is doing post-graduate work here.

Miss Allen is second assistant in the High School at Proctor, Vt.

Miss Avery is taking post-graduate work here in history and literature.

Miss Brainerd is teacher of science in the Stevens High School at Claremont, N. H.

Miss Dunbar is acting as assistant in the High School at Milford, N. H. She has been engaged somewhat in giving private lessons this summer.

Miss Higley is doing post-graduate work here.

Miss Sutton is teaching in the grammar department of the Graded School of Janesville, Minn.

Miss Verder is teacher of science in the High School at Hudson, Mass.

Miss Whitney has been attending lectures at the University of Bonn, Germany. She has travelled since graduation through Great Britain and on the continent. In January, 1899, she will become private secretary of her father, W. F. Whitney.

'97. Leroy C. Russell was married to Miss Mary H. Rockwell of Ashtabula, O., at that place on Aug. 2 last. Hinman, '98, acted as best man. Russell is teaching at Salamanca, N. Y., this year.

'96. Roscoe has a fine position in the Military Academy at Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y. This school is situated near West Point and is modeled somewhat after that institution.

'93. George Hasseltine has entered the law school of the University of Boston. He has been studying law with State's Attorney Fish of this county for some time.

'93. Edgar Brown has resigned his position in the Academy at Newark, N. J., and has accepted a position in one of the public schools of that city.

'91. Principal F. D. Boynton of the Ithaca (N. Y.) High School has received notification from the chancellor of the University of the State of New York of his appointment as chairman of a committee whose duty it is to arrange courses of study for the high schools and academies of the state. The work of the committee will extend over the regular academic courses and, in addition, will include the arrangement of commercial, manual training and domestic science course; also parallel courses in literature, history and science. Principal Boynton is now chairman of the regents' syllabus revision committee, and read a paper upon the "need of revision in regents' work" at the University Convocation at Albany last June, concerning which the *Journal of Education*, Boston, in its issue of July 14, says editorially, "This discussion of the revision of the academic syllabus in 1900 was a broad and generous plea for larger usefulness of the secondary schools of New York State." Mr. Boynton began his sixth year as principal of the Ithaca High School Sept. 6. This school yearly sends about forty students to the college, and is the largest college preparatory school in New York state, according to Melvil Dewey, secretary of the Board of Regents.

'90. Some months ago fish in the rivers and brooks near Montpelier were reported to be dying and it was discovered that a microscopic insect was responsible for the mortality. It appears that salt water fish are also subject to similar attacks, and it is interesting to note the fact that to Prof. A. D. Mead, now of Brown University, Providence, R. I., son of C. D. Mead of this town, is due the discovery. The Providence *Journal* gives at some length the investigations of Prof. Mead which lead up to the assignment of the cause of the wholesale destruction of all kinds of fish in Narragansett bay and the Seekonk river this summer.—*Middlebury Register.*

'83. Dr. Samuel Sheldon and family of Brooklyn spent a large part of the summer at Lake Dunmore.

'82. Frank Brown of Milton, Cal., was chairman of the Democratic County Convention held in San

Andreas, Oct. 1. Mr. Brown, in accepting the chair, made a very vigorous partisan speech.

'69. Hon. Chas. F. Stone is candidate for governor of New Hampshire on the Democratic ticket.

'40. Hon. E. J. Phelps as usual spent a part of the summer at Bread Loaf Inn. At last accounts Mr. Phelps had entirely recovered from his illness of the early summer.

We note the following announcement in recent Washington newspapers concerning the marriage of Prentiss, ex-'91:

"Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Pelz have sent out cards announcing the marriage of their daughter, Edith Gates Meem, to Mr. Albert Noble Prentiss of Vermont, on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 1898. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents by the Rev. Frank Sewall, in the presence of the immediate family. Mr. and Mrs. Prentiss left on the 11 a. m. train for a tour through the northeastern states."

PRESIDENTIAL EDUCATORS.

JEREMIAH EAMES RANKIN, D.L., LL.D.

By Pres. Samuel W. Boardman, Maryville College.

Dr. Rankin was born in Thornton, Grafton Co., N. H., Jan. 2, 1828. His father, Rev. Andrew Rankin (Trustee Middlebury College), widely known for his early advocacy of total abstinence and other Christian effort, was of Scotch descent, the family having early settled in Littleton, N. H., where James Rankin and Margaret Witherspoon were his first ancestors in America. The name Rankin is familiar to all who are acquainted with the literature of Scotland. The able and eminent Miss Melinda Rankin, the founder of Protestant missions in Mexico, was a kinswoman. Dr. Rankin's mother, Lois Eames, was the daughter of Jeremiah Eames, Esq., of Stewartstown, and granddaughter of Capt. Jeremiah Eames of Northumberland, N. H. She was a woman of rare Christian excellence. Dr. Rankin's great-grandfather on her side, William Williams, led a regiment at Bennington. His early life was spent at Salisbury, N.H., where his father was pastor of the church of which Daniel Webster was a member; at South Berwick, Me., and Concord, N. H. He was graduated at Middlebury in 1848, having among his classmates Hon. Sumner Albee, a man of rare and beautiful character and superior scholarship. He was long a successful lawyer and legislator in Boston, residing at Cambridge, a man of whom Prof. Andrew P. Peabody said he had never known one more reliable. Mr. Albee married an accomplished sister of Dr. Rankin. In the same class were Hon. David J. Rich, State Senator in North Carolina; and Rev. Wilson A. Farnsworth, D. D., of Cesarea, Turkey, now one of the veterans who have been longest in the service of the A. B. C. F. M.

The writer vividly recalls the brilliant Commencement oration of Mr. Rankin, on the theme "Thirst for Recognition," and his animated appearance as he came upon the stage. No student of that day had a more decided ambition to make some mark in the world. Persistent diligence through a long professional life has assuredly given some just satisfaction of that youthful aspiration. After graduation he taught one year in New London, Conn., a second year as a private teacher in Warren Co., Ky., and a third year as tutor at Middlebury. He delivered the Master's oration in 1851. From his graduation at college, and perhaps before, he was a frequent contributor to the press.

He was graduated with honor from Andover Theological Seminary in 1854. The same year he delivered the poem before the Associated Alumni of Middlebury College. He began his ministerial labors with the Presbyterian church at Potsdam, N. Y., in the fall of 1854, and, declining a call to the pastorate, was ordained as an evangelist, December, 1854, with his seminary classmate, Rev. Fayette Pettibone, then under appointment of the A. B. C. F. M. for foreign missions in Turkey, where he afterward spent a long and useful life. After two years in Potsdam Dr. Rankin was called to the First Congregational Church of St. Albans, Vt., where he was installed as pastor on June 24, 1857. A revival of great power occurred under his efficient pastorate there, in which, among many other accessions, were five young men who became ministers, one of whom was President Ezra Brainerd, LL.D. After five years' service at St. Albans he was called to the Appleton-Street Church, Lowell, Mass., where his people were devotedly attached to him, and his ministry was very successful.

In 1864 he accepted a call to the Winthrop Church in Charlestown (now Boston), where he remained

five years, having a large congregation and a prosperous ministry. While there he was one of the editors of the Congregational Review, and one of the directors of the S. S. Publishing Society. In 1869 he received from his Alma Mater the degree of D.D., and that of LL.D. in 1889. In October, 1869, he received a unanimous call to the First Congregational Church of Washington, D. C., and was installed March 20, 1870, Rev. R. S. Storrs, D.D., preaching the installation sermon, and Rev. J. P. Thompson, D.D., the sermon of dedication. The church had at that time about 130 members, having been organized May, 1869. In the church there had been serious differences as to the wisdom of receiving colored people to the communion upon an equality with the whites, and one-half withdrew with their pastor and joined a Presbyterian church. Those who remained, with Gen. O. O. Howard at their head, maintained that no distinction should be made on account of race or color. During the fifteen years of Dr. Rankin's ministry to this church the membership increased to 760; the debt of $70,000 was reduced to less than $10,000, and an organ worth $15,000 was purchased. The average of annual additions for the period was 70. During this period such men as Senator Henry Wilson, Wm. A. Buckingham, Speaker Blaine, and not less than 20 other members of Congress were attendants. On Thanksgiving and other public days Dr. Rankin often preached on public topics; two of his sermons, one on "The Bible the Security of American Institutions," and the other "The Divinity of the Ballot," have been largely distributed over the country. He has printed many sermons and articles in the *Congregationalist*, the *Independent*, the *Advance;* also in magazines and reviews. He has published several translations from Adolph Monod, and a treatise of Theodore Monod, issued by the American Tract Society. He also edited a Gospel temperance hymnal for the especial use of Francis Murphy, the temperance advocate, many of the hymns and melodies being original. He has published one or more volumes in the dialect of Burns, which have been highly spoken of by George Macdonald of London, Dr. Ray Palmer and other competent critics. In a word, President Rankin has made important contributions to four departments of poetical composition: 1. In Scottish dialect verse; 2. In sacred and secular hymns and songs, including "God be with you till we meet again," a hymn now translated into many languages and sung in every part of the world; 3. In translations from German hymnology; 4. In odes partly descriptive and partly philosophical, such as his "Broken Cadences," and "Ultimate Africa." His poems include a few pieces of spirited irony and humor. Some of his very best poems have been recently written, and promise much for the future. Two other graduates of Middlebury College, at least, have had long and honored pastorates in Washington: Rev. Reuben Post, D.D. (1814); and Rev. Byron Sunderland, D.D. (1838). Both of these, as well as Dr. Rankin, were chaplains in the Congress of the United States. Dr. Rankin was also Professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology in Howard University. In 1884 Dr. Rankin accepted a pastorate in Orange, N. J., where he remained five years. Dr. Rankin was recalled to Washington as president of Howard University Jan. 1, 1889. His election was unanimous. He had been for years a member of its Board of Trustees. All the eight departments of the University felt the impulse of his coming. The numbers in attendance within eight years have gone up from 360 to 687. Especial improvement was made in the preparatory department. A new lecture hall, called after the name of the Hon. William M. Evarts, was erected for the Law Department. The Andrew Evarts Rankin (1854) chapel was erected at a cost of $18,000. An amphitheatre for the Medical Department cost $13,000. A president's house was also erected by the Board of Trustees, making an aggregate of improvements of not less than $50,000. The Theological Department, wholly supported by the A. M. A., has been much enlarged. In philosophy, theology and Biblical criticism Dr. Rankin is eminently conservative. Dr. Rankin was married Nov. 28, 1854, to Miss Mary Howell Birge, daughter of Cyrus Birge, Esq., and Adaline Frink, formerly of Middlebury, Vt. Their oldest son, E. B. Rankin, M.D., graduated in medicine at Columbian Medical College, D. C., and practiced medicine in Ravenswood, Ill., and in Washington city. He served also as surgeon on the South American line of steamers to Panama. He died Jan. 15, 1897, leaving one daughter. The second son, Walter N., died in 1877 at the age of 19. He was a member of Princeton College, a generous and gifted youth who exhibited rare talent as a musical composer, and was also gifted with the pencil. The

third child, Mary F., graduated with first honors at Mount Vernon Seminary, Washington, D. C.. and on Nov. 11, 1878, was married to Harvey D. Goulder, the leading admiralty lawyer of Cleveland, O. The fourth child, Andrew Wyman, died an infant in Lowell, Mass. The fifth, Miss Edith G. Rankin, is a graduate of Mrs. Somers' Seminary, and a skilled artist and musician.

Of his pastoral work in Washington, 1869–1884, Frederick Douglas said "it had done more for the elevation of the colored race than all the legislation of Congress," while of the same Prof. Austin Phelps, D.D., of Andover, made the declaration that "it was the coronation of all his Andover instructors." President W. W. Patton said he never heard him preach a poor sermon; and Prof. Cyrus Richards that "he was a model pastor." At one time twenty-five ex-pastors were members of his congregation in Washington, and several of them served as deacons. His present work is that of President of Trustees, and ex-officio of all the seven departments—Law, Medicine, Theology, College, Preparatory, Normal, Industrial; and educator in Natural Theology, Moral Science and Christian Evidences; preaching once a Sunday. Though Howard University was founded and supported mainly for the colored race, the number of white students in attendance in the several departments has been constantly increasing, while there are representatives from all the world.

Dr. Rankin's work both as pastor and teacher has been crowned with numerous revivals of religion. He has, in many official positions, endeavored, through the great ecclesiastical and benevolent organizations of the age, to extend and build up the kingdom of Christ. Especially he has sought to lift up the lowly and down-trodden. His best known hymn, "God be with you," etc., is a felicitous, rythmical condensation of several of the most precious promises of the Word of God. These lines and others evince culture, labor, genius. Many of his other hymns and songs, sacred and secular, are extensively read. The life-work of all the students who are together in college is in some sense the possession and pride of each. It is pleasant, as the close of life approaches, to recognize the useful and honorable achievements of successive college classes. It is in this spirit this article is written. Dr. Rankin has just published a volume of translations from the German, entitled "German-English Lyrics." Librarian Spofford of Washington says of it, "Rendered with fine discrimination and logical power." His mind and pen are as active to-day as ever.

OBITUARY.

EBEN E. SMITH.

Mr. Eben E. Smith, treasurer of the National Life Association, died suddenly at his home in Hartford, Conn., Tuesday evening, Aug. 9. His death was sudden, resulting from an an acute attack of bronchitis.

Mr. Smith was a native of Vermont and was graduated from Middlebury College in the class of '71. He was the first to die of that class, which graduated fifteen strong. He chose the law as a profession and was admitted to the bar in this State. He removed to Hartford several years ago and has since been identified with the National Life Association. Mr. Smith married Miss Mary P. Gillett of Hartford.

The deceased was a member of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church and a man of genuine Christian life. He was an ardent Republican, was a member of several societies and prominent in many lines of work. Mr. Smith was a man of the strictest personal integrity. He was regarded with the kindliest of feelings by men in all positions of life. His educational training made him a man of thought and scholarship, and he enjoyed keeping up the old literary pursuits, being an earnest reader and student through life.

LOCALS.

Work on the new marble mill is progressing rapidly.

A. C. Wales, '96, has been spending a few days at Mrs. Avery's.

Smith, '99, has been elected a member of the Vermont Botanical Club.

Dr. C. M. Mead, '56, of Hartford, Conn., was here visiting friends the week college opened.

During the summer Dr. Prentiss catalogued and arranged the Ladies' Library of this town.

Fritz Burnham, Amherst, '96, was in town over Sunday as the guest of friends here in college.

The boarding hall has about thirty boarders. Lake, '99, is commissary, and Bingham, '99, treasurer.

Hubbard and Smith, of the class of '99 at U. V. M., went to Burlington last week to begin their senior year.

Prentiss, '96, now an instructor at Harvard, made the college a few short visits before his return to work.

Miss Florence Allen, '98, made her friends here a short visit two weeks ago. She is now teaching in Proctor.

President and Mrs. Brainerd entertained the members of the faculty and their wives on the evening of the 16th.

Prof. Henckels spent the summer at his home in Germany. He returned in time for the opening of the term.

An informal dance was given Friday evening, Sept. 23, at the schoolhouse hall. About fifteen couples were present.

Prof. C. B. Wright was in Saratoga the week before college opened to attend a meeting of the Phi Beta Kappa society.

Homer L. Skeels, '98, has made the college two short visits this fall. Homer regrets that he isn't here to help out on football.

The Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity held the first of a series of informal dances in the schoolhouse hall Saturday evening, Oct. 1.

Prof. Bryant has rented the Miss Daunis property at the intersection of South and Main streets, and took possession just before the opening of college.

The electric lights have been very little in evidence so far this year, as the plant has been shut down in order to put in a new iron penstock. Sic semper.

E. J. Waterman, '99, who served in the First Vermont during the recent war with Spain, is confined at his home by illness. He will return to college soon.

The class of 1902 has organized with the following officers: President, Simmons; vice-president, Stone; secretary, Miss Baker; treasurer, Noble; toastmaster, Thompson.

The annual encampment of the Middlebury Chapter of Pi Beta Phi was held in the first part of July at Highgate, Vt. A large number of the young ladies enjoyed its pleasures.

Mrs. Leavenworth, wife of C. G. Leavenworth, '82, returned last week to her home in Cleveland, O., after a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Eldridge of this place.

Dr. George N. Boardman, '47, of New York city, while in town recently, called at the college and incidentally furnished the editors of the forthcoming general catalogue with some information concerning alumni.

The trustees of the college are having a house erected near the boarding hall for the use of Professor Wright. The exterior is nearly completed, and the building will certainly be a great addition to the quadrangle.

Middlebury has been honored during the summer by the election of Dr. Burt, Professor of Natural History, to honorary membership in the Boston Mycological Club and to active membership in the Botanical Society of America.

On another page we give the class poem delivered at the class-day exercises last Commencement. We were unable to print the poem at that time, but owing to the many requests made to us to put this upon record in the college paper, we now gladly give Mr. Lobban's fine effort a place in our columns.

Professor McGilton attended the State Teachers' convention held in Montpelier recently. In behalf of the teachers he responded to the mayor's address of welcome, and was interrupted several times by applause. Owing to the absence of the president of the society, Mr. McGilton presided over its deliberations.

In the Troy Daily Times of Sept. 15 there is a very interesting two-column article on Middlebury College from the pen of James H. Ross, one of their correspondents. The facts in regard to Middlebury's influence on Mrs. Emma Hart Willard and through her on female education throughout the United States are well worth the reading.

Several college students will assist in the pantomime, "The Courtship of Miles Standish," which will be given for the benefit of the Epworth League at the opera house on the evening of Oct. 7. Wells, '95, will take the part of Standish, Cushman, '95, that of Alden, Miss Berneice Thomas, 1901, will take the part of Priscilla, and Stafford, 1901, the character of the Indian.

The Freshmen and Sophomores were unusually quiet for some time, but they are beginning to make up for lost time. A very lively fight took place last Friday over a "stove-pipe" which a Freshman tried to wear while going to recitation. About thirty boys formed a pile on top of the hat, and in the end almost everybody had a relic of the old tile to hang up in his room.

The football manager, Stone, '99, succeeded in securing for this year one of the best coaches that Middlebury has ever had—Mr. Locke, who played for three years on the Brown team. With Mr. Locke came Mr. Morse, captain of the M. I. T. team, so our men had practically two first-class coaches. Batchelder, 1900, the new captain, gave every prospect of success in that capacity, and as a fine schedule of games had been arranged, the outlook was certainly very good. But it was found impossible to get the men into shape; not enough came out regularly for practice to insure a good team, so the manager and captain concluded wisely not to follow up the schedule. The team was accordingly disbanded and football, we regret to say, will not be played by a college team here this year. Yet in order to keep the men in practice and give the new men training, we would suggest a few class games. Wells, captain of baseball, is getting his men to work for the team next spring, and some very good material is showing up among the Freshmen.

CLASS OF 1902.

Edwin A. Baker,	Walworth, N. Y.
David A. Burke,	Port Henry, N. Y.
John R. Duffield,	"
Jesse C. French,	Potsdam, N. Y.
Hermon E. Hasseltine,	Bristol.
James Hovey,	East Orange, N. J.
Frederick A. Hughes,	Middlebury.
Frederick B. Miner,	Bridport.
Learned R. Noble,	Tinmouth.
Gilbert W. Roberts,	New York City.
Louis W. Seiple,	Vergennes.
A. C. Sheldon,	Salisbury.
Fay A. Simmons,	Dorset.
Wilfred J. Stone,	Vergennes.
John E. Thompson,	Tarrytown, N. Y.
Percival Wilds,	Middlebury.
Julius A. Wilcox,	Crown Point, N. Y.
Fay D. Woodruff,	Moriah Center, N. Y.
Charles A. Voetsch,	New Haven.
Miss Nellie E. Baker,	Van Deusen, N. Y.
" Edith F. Barrett,	Manchester Center.
" Elizabeth Bowles,	Middlebury.
" Anna K. Deuel,	Millbrook, N. Y.
" Mary W. Hall,	Rutland.
" Laura A. Roburds,	Vergennes.
" Mabel A. Ryder,	Weybridge.
" Elizabeth A. Williams,	Poultney.

TRACK AND FIELD RECORDS.

As there has been considerable disagreement in regard to the true Middlebury athletic records, we give below a statement of them, so far as can be learned:

One hundred yards dash, Halpin, '98, 10 1-8 sec.; shot-put, Skeels, '98, 32 ft. 3 in.; 220 yard dash (name not given in records), 24 1-5 sec.; standing high jump, Sturtevant, '93, 4 ft. 7 in.; half-mile run, Batchelder, 1900, 2 min. 23 3-5 sec.; running broad jump, Sturtevant, '93, 18 ft. 11½ in.; one-fourth mile run, Lobban, '98, 56 5-8 sec.; throwing hammer, Allen, 1900, 82 ft.; standing broad jump, Sturtevant, '93, 10 ft. 6½ in.; pole vault, P. G. Ross, '93, 9 ft. 6 in.; running high jump, Sturtevant, '93, 5 ft. 2½ in.; half-mile relay race, class of '98, 1 min. 42 3-5 sec.

LIBRARY NOTES.

The library has received from the editor, George A. Marvin (former student, class of 1898), Vol. II. in numbers of the "Chimes," published by him during the summer months at Norfolk, Conn. This gift prompts us to remind the readers of the UNDERGRADUATE that the library should have upon its shelves all the published works of those who have been at any time connected with the college.

RECENT ACCESSIONS.

Rankin, trans. German-English Lyrics, sacred and secular.

White and Riddle. Latin-English dictionary.

Atlantic Monthly. Vols. III., IV. and VIII.

Arthur. Living plants and their properties.

Mayor. Guide to classical books. Supplement, 1896.

Blanchan. Bird neighbors.

Davenport. Experimental morphology, part 1.

Behrends. Old testament under fire.

Merimee. Colomba.

Dudevant. Consuelo, Countess of Rudolstadt.

Tennyson. Alfred, Lord Tennyson, a memoir.

Warner, ed. Library of the world's best literature.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS.

Sept. 17. On the first Saturday afternoon of the term, an informal tea was held in the Phrontisterion, to which all the young women of the college were invited. The room was tastefully decorated with

clematis and cut flowers. A large number were present and report a pleasant time.

Sept. 18, a special meeting of the college women was held. Prof. Wright spoke very helpfully on the thought, "Choosing the best things." Bible study was emphasized.

Sept. 26. On Friday evening the annual reception to the faculty, their ladies, and students, given by the two Christian associations, occurred in the Phrontisterion and association room. The presidents, Mr. Lake and Miss Crampton, were assisted in receiving by Mrs. Brainerd, Mrs. Burt and Mrs. Henckels. Much credit is due the decorating committee for the pleasing results of their labors. Thanks are extended to all who helped make the evening a success.

Sept. 28, a missionary meeting was held in the interests of the Misssion Study Class. Reports of the Missionary Institute at Northfield were given by Misses Southwick and Hemenway.

The Mission Study Class is to take up a course on China. The text book to be used is entitled, "Dawn on the Hills of T'ang." Although the plans for conducting the class, which will be under the leadership of Miss Mary Pollard, are not fully completed, yet they will probably be similar to those of last year. A personal canvass is soon to be made and a large class is hoped for.

The Bible Study Class will continue the use of "Sharman's Outlines" along the same plan as last Spring.

AT NORTHFIELD.

The World's Students' conference took place at Northfield, Mass., July 1–10. Smith, '99, and Horton, 1900, represented Middlebury at that assembly. The work of the conference was in the highest degree instructive and inspiring. About 446 delegates were present, representing 117 institutions of learning. Each forenoon was devoted to various services, missionary institutes, college conferences, Bible study classes, and platform meetings. The afternoons were given up to recreation, intercollegiate base-ball and tennis tournaments being a prominent feature. Trips to Mount Hermon, the many colonial reminders, and numerous other things of interest, gave enjoyment to these afternoons. The famous "Round Top" meetings were especially profitable. July 4 was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the boys with patriotic and college songs aud yells.

The Young Women's Christian Association conference was held at Northfield, Mass., July 13–22. There were about 400 registered delegates from 52 colleges and 21 cities. The territory covered extended from Boston University to Denver University, from McGill University, Montreal, to Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Va.

The plan of the conference is similar to that of a summer school except that the former is distinctively for Christian work and Bible study. Each morning three conferences were held—missionary classes, Bible study classes, and college and city conferences, held separately. At the close a platform meeting was held in the auditorium. The afternoons were devoted to recreation.

The specific aims of this convention are given as follows: To train college women for leadership in organized Christian work among their fellow students; to consider the problems of Christian work among city young women; to give practical direction to missionary work; to add impetus to Bible study; and to deepen the spiritual life.

To say that Northfield is an inspiration and a power is not needful. Those who go there carry away with them much which leaves such an impress on their characters as cannot easily be effaced.

Middlebury College Y. W. C. A. was represented by Misses Crampton, Southwick, Hemenway and Anderson.

THE TEACHERS' EXCHANGE
OF BOSTON. 258 WASHINGTON ST.
Recommends teachers and tutors of all grades. . . . . Special attention given to
COLLEGE GRADUATES

BARDWELL HOUSE,
CRAMPTON & CARPENTER, Propr's.
RUTLAND, - - - VERMONT.
GOOD LIVERY CONNECTED.

REMEMBER
George E. Marshall
— WHEN BUYING —
BOOKS,
Stationery, ✣ Athletic ✣ Goods, ✣ Etc.

THE

MIDDLEBURY REGISTER

COSTS

$1.00 A YEAR

AND

Gives all the News

—OF—

Middlebury and Addison County

AND A GREAT DEAL FROM THE

WORLD AT LARGE.

PUBLISHED BY

THE REGISTER CO.

MIDDLEBURY, VT.

Right is Might!

The influence of a concern such as ours becomes all powerful and far-reaching when backed by the power of **Right.** It is the key-note of our wonderful success and rapid growth. . .

Prices Right. Goods Right.

Service, attention—every detail of our vast business—known to be **Right.**

F. A. BOND, PINE HALL

EVERY MAN in MIDDLEBURY knows
That the Smallest Store in the State is the place
To buy his Clothes—
We sell Hats, Caps and Neck Ties, too,
If you don't wear dresses, we can fit you.

CHAPMAN & CO.,

THE CASH CLOTHIERS.

Tailoring a specialty.

W H. KINGSLEY,

DENTIST,

UP STAIRS IN BREWSTER'S BLOCK, MIDDLEBURY, VT.

Wanted Immediately RELIABLE MAN OR WOMAN. ASSURED INCOME TO RIGHT PERSON. THE BEST PAY EVER OFFERED FOR SIMILAR SERVICE.

The Cosmopolitan Magazine, edited by JOHN BRISBEN WALKER, wishes to add a quarter of a million to its clientèle, already the largest, of intelligent, thinking readers possessed by any periodical in the world.

IT IS PREPARED TO PAY HANDSOMELY FOR ASSISTANCE RENDERED. It wishes the services of one reliable man or woman in every town, village, country district, or manufacturing establishment in every State. All that is required of any one is reliability, earnestness and work. No matter on what other work you are engaged, it will pay you to examine into this offer.

Apply, stating position, capability and references, to THE COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE, Irvington-on-the-Hudson, New York.